Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-13 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-15

PRS-01 RSR-01 /132 W

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R 211533Z AUG 73 FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM TO SECSTATE WASHDC 577 INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN AMEMBASSY HELSINKI AMEMBASSY OSLO USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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E.O.11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN SW

SUBJECT: SWEDISH RIKSBANK GOVERNOR ASBRINK TO GO TO IMF

1. SWEDISH PRESS ANNOUNCED AUGUST 21 THAT PER ASBRINK, GOVERNOR OF SWEDISH CENTRAL BANK, WILL LEAVE HIS POSITION THIS FALL TO ASSUME ON NOVEMBER 1, 1973 A SEAT ON BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR NORDIC COUNTRIES. IN THAT CAPACITY, ASBRINK WILL SUCCEED ERIK BROFOSS, FORMER GOVERNMOR OF CENTRAL BANK OF NORWAY. PER ASBRINK HAS SERVED AS GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK SINCE 1955, LONGER THAN ANY OF HIS PREDECESSORS. HE IS NOW SIXTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE AND REPORTEDLY FEELS THAT SEAT ON BOARD OF IMF IS "A GOOD WASY TO END HIS ACTIVE DAYS."

2. COMMENT: A SELF-MADE MAN, ASBRINK WORKED AS A LUMBERJACK IN HIS YOUTH AND OBTAINED MASTER'S DEGREE IN 1945 THROUGH ADULT EDUCATION COURSES. ASBRINK HAS BEEN AN ABLE ADMINISTRATOR, A "TOUGH" ENFORCER OF REGULATIONS, BUT HAS NEVER ACHIEVED REAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STATURE AMONG WESTERN CENTRAL BANK GOVERNORS. HE SPEAKS GOOD

ENGLISH AND IS FRIENDLY TO AMERICANS.

3. OFFICIAL SOURCE HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT NO SUCCESSOR WILL BE NAMED UNTIL AFTER GENERAL ELECTIONS ON SEPTEMBER 16.
HE SAID THAT ASBRINK'S DEPARTURE FROM RIKSBANK HAD BEEN DECIDED IN EARLY SUMMER, AND THAT GOVERNMENT HAD HOPED TO POSTPONE ANNOUNCEMENT UNTIL AFTER ELECTIONS BUT STORY SOMEHOW GOT TO PRESS. FOREIGN MINISTER WICKMAN HAS BEEN MENTIONED IN PRESS AS ONE OF SEVERAL POSSIBLE CANDIDATES TO REPLACE HIM. OTHERS MENTIONED INCLUDE DEPTUTY GOVERNOR HANS LUNDSTROM, COMMERCE MINISTER FELDT, UNDER SECRETARY OF FINANCE SJONANDE, UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE DENNIS, ETC.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: CENTRAL BANK, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, BANKERS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS

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